

CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) Method for using a sales machine for selling public transportation tickets, the method comprising:

providing a sales machine configured for selling tickets the public transportation tickets, the sales machine being configured to facilitate purchase of goods and/or services by a customer against payment of a document as cash in the form of banknotes, or vouchers;

providing the sales machine with a verification unit, wherein the verification unit is configured for authenticating the document;

providing the sales machine with an intermediate storage configured to maintain documents accepted until the amount of the document corresponds to or exceeds the amount of the ticket;

feeding the document to the verification unit by means of an input unit containing an opening into which the document can be inserted individually and consecutively;

authenticating the document, wherein said authenticating the document is performed with a combination of at least two different verification methods;

comparing the at least two verification methods with verification specifications;

determining a probability of authenticity of the document;

releasing the document for further processing, the further processing comprising at least one of:

accepting the document as positively authenticated when the probability meets predetermined criteria, and maintaining the document in the intermediate storage until the amount of the document corresponds to or exceeds the amount of the ticket; and or

recording the document as an image and presenting the image to an operator for visual verification by the operator when the probability does not meet the predetermined criteria and the document is negatively authenticated, wherein ~~the visual verification includes at least one of accepting the document~~ is accepted when the document ~~passes~~ has passed a visual examination of the visual verification and ~~maintaining the document is maintained~~ in the intermediate storage, and ~~refusing acceptance the document is refused~~ when the document does not pass the visual examination of the visual verification, ~~and feeding wherein the document is fed to a separate storage device for invalid documents or ejected ejecting the document, the visual verification also including:~~

~~recording the document as an image.~~

2. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the at least two verification methods are selected from the group comprising size verification, magnetic verification, image verification, infrared verification, UV verification, and visual verification.
3. (cancelled)
4. (cancelled)
5. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the visual verification is performed only on documents of a desired value.
6. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the visual verification method is performed as via direct visual authentication of the image of the document.
7. (cancelled)
8. (cancelled)

9. (previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein the operator consists of an entity other than the customer.

10. (currently amended) Method for using a sales machine for selling public transportation tickets, the method comprising:

providing a sales machine configured for selling the public transportation tickets, the sales machine being configured to facilitate purchase of goods and/or services by a customer against payment of a document as cash in the form of banknotes or vouchers;

providing the sales machine with a verification unit, wherein the verification unit is configured for authenticating the document;

providing the sales machine with a storage for positively authenticated documents;

feeding the document to the verification unit by means of an input unit containing an opening into which the document can be inserted individually and consecutively;

authenticating the document, wherein said authenticating the document is performed with a combination of at least two different verification methods;

comparing the at least two verification methods with verification specifications;

determining a probability of authenticity of the document; and

releasing the document for further processing, the further processing comprising at least one of:

accepting the document as positively authenticated when the probability meets predetermined criteria, and transporting the document in the storage for positively authenticated documents; and or

recording the document as an image and presenting the image to an operator for visual verification by the operator when the probability does not meet the predetermined criteria and the document is negatively authenticated, wherein ~~the visual verification includes at least one of accepting the document is accepted~~ when the document ~~passes~~ has passed a visual examination of the visual verification and transporting the document is transported in the storage for positively authenticated documents, and ~~the document is refused~~ refusing acceptance when the document does not pass the visual examination of the visual verification, and ~~feeding the document is fed~~ to a separate storage device for invalid documents or ejected ~~ejecting the document, the visual verification also including:~~

~~recording the document as an image.~~

11. (previously presented) Method according to claim 10, wherein the at least two verification methods are selected from the group comprising size verification, magnetic verification, image verification, infrared verification, UV verification, and visual verification.
12. (previously presented) Method according to claim 10, wherein the visual verification is performed only on documents of a desired value.
13. (previously presented) Method according to claim 10, wherein the operator consists of an entity other than the customer.